

Roan Mountain State Park

2004 Special Events

For more information contact Julie Ensminger at julie.ensminger@state.tn.us or 1.800.250.8620 ext. 108

46th Annual Spring Naturalist Rally: May 7-9

Guest naturalists lead trips to explore various aspects of Roan Mountain, including wildflowers, geology, birds, butterflies and ecology. Special guest speakers will give presentations Friday and Saturday nights. Organized by the Friends of Roan Mountain. Fee required. For more information contact Jennifer Bauer at jennifer.bauer@state.tn.us.

23rd Annual Roan Mountain Junior Trout Tournament: May 8

Youngsters ages 7 to 15 get a chance to catch the “big one” and win prizes. Tagged fish will be stocked for the event. Contact the park office to register.

58th Annual Rhododendron Festival: June 19-20

Celebrate the blooming of the beautiful Catawba rhododendron atop Roan Mountain and our southern Appalachian heritage. The festival features crafters, folkway demonstrators, musicians and, of course, food! Held in the amphitheater area from 10 am to 6 pm both days.

Independence Day Celebration: July 3

Come to the park amphitheater for bluegrass music, clogging and fireworks! Entertainment will begin at 7 pm and will be followed by a fabulous fireworks show at 10 pm.

Annual Roan Mountain Butterfly Count: July 17

Want to learn more about butterflies and aid in assessing the health of the local population? Travel to several sites in the area to help count these winged beauties. No prior experience is required.

Binoculars, water and lunch are recommended, but not required. Sponsored by the North American Butterfly Association. Meet at the visitor center at 10 am.

Fall Naturalist Rally: September 3-5

Local naturalists share their knowledge & love of these mountains on scheduled hikes. Special guests present programs Friday and Saturday nights. Organized by the Friends of Roan Mountain. Fee required. For more information contact Gary Barrigar at barrigar@usit.net.

Chili Cook-Off: September 25

Does your chili amount to beans? Cook up a pot yourself or come by to sample someone else's. Chili will be judged at 12:30 pm at the campground picnic shelter, and eaten shortly afterward. Register to enter at the park office. Prizes to the winners!

The Autumn Harvest: October 16

Celebrate the changing of the seasons in southern Appalachia! Demonstrators of traditional folkways such as spinning, making apple butter, and blacksmithing will ply their trades as old time musicians, cloggers, and storytellers provide entertainment. 10 am – 5 pm.

Old-Fashioned Christmas at the Homestead: November 13

Reminisce about the old days with a Christmas celebration at the Miller Homestead, built in 1909. Head up the mountain for old-time music and traditional eats. 2-5 pm.